



San Diego County Water Authority

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April 2, 2008

MEMBER AGENCIES

- Carlsbad Municipal Water District
- City of Del Mar
- City of Escandido
- City of National City
- City of Oceanside
- City of Poway
- City of San Diego
- Fallbrook Public Utility District
- Helix Water District
- Olivenhain Municipal Water District
- Otay Water District
- Padre Dam Municipal Water District
- Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base
- Rainbow Municipal Water District
- Ranona Municipal Water District
- Rincon del Diabla Municipal Water District
- San Dieguito Water District
- Santa Fe Irrigation District
- South Bay Irrigation District
- Vallecitos Water District
- Valley Center Municipal Water District
- Vista Irrigation District
- Yuima Municipal Water District

Chairman Richard Wright
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Carlsbad Desalination Project, April 9, 2008 Hearing, Agenda Item 7

Dear Chairman Wright:

The San Diego County Water Authority encourages the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to approve the Carlsbad Desalination Project's Flow, Entrainment, and Impingement Minimization Plan - #R9-2006-0065, NPDES No. CA 0109223. In 2006, the Regional Board unanimously approved a discharge permit for the desalination facility.

The Water Authority's adopted 2005 Urban Water Management Plan is based on a water supply strategy that includes the development of a diverse portfolio of water supplies that will allow our region and our \$150 billion regional economy to reliably meet projected water supply needs out to 2020 and beyond. The Water Authority's plan relies on a mix of imported and local water supplies that includes doubling the region's conservation, more than doubling the region's use of groundwater, recycled water, and desalinated ocean water from the Carlsbad Desalination Project as a new local water supply. In light of court-imposed pumping restrictions on Delta exports that will significantly reduce State Water Project supplies to Southern California, we are counting on 56,000 acre-feet annually of ocean desalination from the Carlsbad project by 2011 to help protect our ratepayers and our regional economy from the potentially devastating impacts of water supply shortages. In June 2007, the Water Authority Board of Directors took action to approve a resolution (attached) in support of the Carlsbad Project.

Thank you for your consideration of San Diego County's water supply needs.

Sincerely,

Maureen A. Stapleton
General Manager

A public agency providing a safe and reliable water supply to the San Diego region

Attachment: San Diego County Water Authority Carlsbad Desalination Plant Resolution

cc:

David King, Vice Chairman
Susan Ritschel, Board Member
Eric Anderson, Board Member
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member
Elizabeth Pearson-Schneider, Board Member
Kris Weber, Board Member
John Robertus, Executive Director
Eric Becker
Michael McCann
John Odermatt

RESOLUTION NO. 2007- 13

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
WATER AUTHORITY IN SUPPORT OF THE
CARLSBAD DESALINATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, seawater desalination has been identified as a key component of the Water Authority's efforts to further diversify the region's water supply portfolio.

WHEREAS, the Water Authority adopted a Drought Management Plan that provides an encourages its member agencies to pursue the development of highly reliable, local drought-proof supplies; and

WHEREAS, On July 27, 2006, the Water Authority Board of Directors took action to not pursue a regional seawater desalination facility at the Encina Power Station, and reaffirmed its contractual commitment to the City of Carlsbad to facilitate the development of the privately-owned Carlsbad Desalination Project; and

WHEREAS, the successful implementation of the Carlsbad Desalination Project will enhance reliability of San Diego County's water supply by providing a drought-proof local supply.

WHEREAS, Water Authority member agencies including the Carlsbad Municipal Water District, Valley Center Municipal Water District, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District, and Sweetwater Authority have now entered into long-term agreements to purchase desalinated water from the Carlsbad Desalination Project; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code Sections 10610 through 10657, known as the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), requires urban water suppliers to prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan every five years on or before December 31, in years ending in five and zero; and

WHEREAS, the Act specifies the requirements and procedures for adopting such Urban Water Management Plans; and

WHEREAS, the Water Authority Board of Directors on April 26, 2007, approved and adopted the Updated 2005 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), which includes 40,000 acre-feet per year of desalinated water produced from the Carlsbad Desalination Project as a verifiable local water supply that can be delivered to Water Authority member agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Updated 2005 UWMP identifies a local seawater desalination goal of 56,000 acre-feet-per-year; and

WHEREAS, the State of California, in the California Water Plan Update 2005, includes desalination as resource management strategy to meet California's future water needs, and has identified a potential water supply need of up to 500,000 acre-feet per year from brackish and seawater desalination projects; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) supports the development of local resources, including seawater desalination. Metropolitan's Integrated Resources Plan calls for the development of a diverse, sustainable resource mix in order to provide supply reliability to our region. The Integrated Resources Plan includes targets for conservation, recycling, groundwater recovery, and other resources, including 150,000 acre-feet of seawater desalination by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Water Authority Board of Directors on April 26, 2007, approved and adopted the Updated 2005 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) which states that the Water Authority will actively work to secure the \$250 per acre foot incentive funding under Metropolitan's Seawater Desalination Program for its member agencies participating in the Carlsbad Desalination Project and will actively work to facilitate the development of the Carlsbad Desalination Project, including supporting the permitting of the project through state regulatory agencies such as the California Coastal Commission and the State Lands Commission;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Water Authority resolves:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and constitute the findings and determinations of the Board of Directors.
2. The Water Authority recognizes the regional and statewide importance of developing seawater desalination as a new, reliable drought-proof water supply.
3. The Carlsbad Desalination Project is essential to the Water Authority's ability to achieve the supply diversification goals contained in the 2005 UWMP
4. The Carlsbad Desalination Project can be developed in an environmentally responsible manner.
5. The Water Authority supports the development of this new local water supply and will coordinate with project stakeholders to actively support the permitting of the project through state regulatory agencies such as the California Coastal Commission and the State Lands Commission
6. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

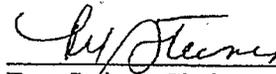
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of June 2007, by the following vote:

AYES: Unless noted below, all Directors voted aye.

NOES:

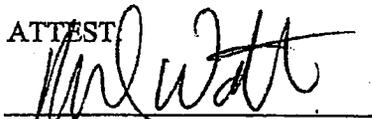
ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Morrison, Muir (p), and Quist



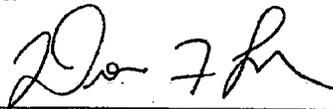
Fern Steiner, Chair
Board of Directors

ATTEST



Mark Watton, Secretary
Board of Directors

I, Doria F. Lore, Clerk of the Board of the San Diego County Water Authority, certify that the vote shown above is correct and this Resolution No. 2007- 13 was duly adopted at the meeting of the Board of Directors on the date stated above.



Doria F. Lore
Clerk of the Board